

Economic Development of Sc/St Women through Dairy Co-Operatives A Case Study Of: Alwar District

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ABSTRACT-

This study covered 100 cooperative SC/ST women member milk producers and 100 non-member women milk producers of 10 tehsils of Alwar District; which were post-stratified into small, medium and large herd size categories. Per day net income was found to be higher for member group than that of non-member group. It was found to be higher in case of sc/st dairy women milk producers than that of non-dairy women milk producers. Per litre cost of buffalo and cow milk production was observed to be higher for the non-member as compared to member group. . Further, it was found higher in summer season. Daily net return was found relatively higher in member group as compared to non-member group and also found higher in winter season. Overall average daily milk production, consumption and marketed surplus of milk were found higher on the member group as compared to non-member group.

Index Terms- Buffalo, Cow, Dairy cooperatives, Marketed surplus, Per litre cost.

I. INTRODUCTION

Dairy cooperatives have played an important role to improve the economy of small milk producers' households in different regions of India. Rajasthan is one amongst them, which is predominantly an agricultural state with an excellent potential for milk production. Dairy cooperatives have not only provided organized network of milk marketing to the rural households, but also provided the crucial technical inputs like provision of artificial insemination, health services and feed inputs. Cost plays an important role in portraying economic viability of a dairy enterprise. It is a critical economic indicator for milk producers, consumers and policy makers in order to provide an effective linkage between the milk producers and consumers for fixing the price of milk rationally. Generally, a milk producer can increase his dairy income in two ways either by increasing the milk production or by reducing cost of milk production. Cost of milk production often becomes a policy issue, when milk producers complain that the price of milk they are getting does not cover the cost of milk production. Keeping the above background in mind, it is necessary to study the comparative analysis of milk production with the following specific objectives.

- (1.) To evaluate the progress of dairy co-operative societies of Alwar district.
- (2.) To focus on equitable distribution of income on different categories especially on sc/sts.
- (3.) To narrow down the gap between the rich and poor, reducing the concentration of income, wealth and economic power and to achieve the socialistic pattern of society.
- (4.) To generate the additional employment and income opportunities in the rural areas or for sc/ st women.
- (5.) To study the impact of dairy cooperative societies on income and employment generation on rural milk producer's (sc/sts) households in Alwar district of Rajasthan.
- (6.) Dairy cooperatives are expected to empower sc/st women to achieve socialistic pattern of society.

(7.) Further, dairy cooperatives are expected to stimulate the productivity of milch animals not only by providing technical inputs and services but also by encouraging the farmers to have high yielding milch animals. Moreover, high yielding milch animals generally get better health care and management which may lead to increased human labour absorption and higher income to rural households.

Present investigation is, therefore, an attempt to study the impact of dairy cooperative societies on income and employment generation on rural milk (sc/st women producer's) households in Alwar district of Rajasthan.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Attempts have been made to review briefly the specific and relevant literature, which has direct or indirect bearing on the objectives of the present study. Accordingly, relevant literature has been reviewed and presented in chronological order as follows.

Rao and Singh (1995) while studying the impact of operation flood programme on the economics of the buffalo milk production in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh found that the gross cost of milk production was Rs.2,982.05, Rs.3,274.05, Rs.2,744.80, Rs.2,682.75 per annum on landless, small, medium and large categories in the case of the beneficiary households as against Rs.2,544.05, Rs.2,252.05, Rs.2,113.35 and Rs.2,314.10 per annum on landless, small, medium and large categories for the non-member households. The average cost of milk production was Rs. 2.80 per litre on the beneficiary households as compared to Rs.3.75 per litre on the non-beneficiary households.

Sangu (1995) conducted a study on the impact of dairy cooperative societies on production, consumption and marketed surplus of milk in Meerut district of UP among member and non-member households. Average milk production per member and non-member household respectively were found to be 7.74 and 6.91 kg per day of which 26.72 and 25.78 per cent was retained for home consumption and the rest was sold. The milk production increased with size of land holding.

III RESEARCH TECHNIQUE:

The area of present study is although Alwar district but there are about 1011 registered primary cooperative milk producer unions and district level committees which collect and distribute about 1.4 lakh litre milk every day.

Therefore, the overall scope of mentioned study is quite widespread. Following methodology has been adopted for the present study.

1. To evaluate the progress and work of district association the information about various departments like; technical support department, training department, accounts department and statistical department have been collected from leading authorities.
2. By personal interviewing of important functionaries of the district association and the board members of the Executive secretary some related information is collected about the work and progress of the society.
3. Information concerning the progress of the past few years, presented in the study is collected through periodically published magazines, annual reports and the collected data of various departments of the state government, dairy development union, Rajasthan dairy development, and from Alwar Zila Sahkari Dugdh Utpadak Sangh have been used.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Alwar district milk producers' cooperative union was purposively selected from Rajasthan state. Exhaustive lists of all the sc/st women milk producers' cooperative societies in Alwar district milk producer's cooperative union were prepared. From amongst these societies, ten milk procurement societies were randomly selected. A complete enumeration of all milk producing households of ten selected societies as well as tehsils covered under these societies was carried out. All the milk producing households were classified into three categories, viz., Small (1-2 milch animals), Medium (3-4 milch animals) and Large (more than 4 milch animals) on the basis of number of milch animals.

From ten selected societies, 200 member households were randomly selected based on probability proportional to number of households in each category. Thereafter the non-member households (200) of almost similar resource situation were selected from each category of households in the same society tehsils to serve as valid basis of comparison. Thus in all, 200 households were interviewed during the year 2012-13.

The primary data were collected with help of well structured pre-tested schedule by personal enquiry method. The data collected were subjected to tabular analysis in order to study the comparative economics of milk production. The net maintenance cost per milch animal per day was divided by the respective average milk yield per milch animal per day to arrive at per litre cost of milk production. Net return was computed by deducting gross cost from gross return. The total milk produced by all milch animals in the household was reckoned as total milk production. The quantity of milk retained at home for consumption or conversion into milk products was taken as the per day milk consumption of household. The marketed surplus of milk was worked out by subtracting total milk consumption from total milk production.

V. CONCLUSION

The findings of present study would be of practical significance for the researchers, extension workers, policy makers, planners, administrators and dairy farmers so as to take rational decisions for the benefit of sc/st members of dairy co-operative societies as well as promote co-operative movement in the field of dairying in Rajasthan in general and for the cooperative milk union in Alwar district.

The study in nutshell indicated a positive impact of dairy cooperatives on several economic parameters such as average cost and return, production, consumption and marketed surplus of milk in dairy enterprise as evidenced from the results of the investigation.

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